

Make Connections

Sometimes, the sum of two fractions is greater than 1. When adding fractions with unlike denominators, you can use the 1-whole strip to help determine if a sum is greater than 1 or less than 1.

Use fraction strips to solve. $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{2}$

STEP 1

Work with another student. Place three $\frac{1}{5}$ fraction strips under the 1-whole strip on your MathBoard. Then place a $\frac{1}{2}$ fraction strip beside the three $\frac{1}{5}$ strips.

STEP 2

Find fraction strips, all with the same denominator, that are equivalent to $\frac{3}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$. Place the fraction strips under the sum. At the right, draw a picture of the model and write the equivalent fractions.

$$\frac{3}{5} = \frac{\quad}{\quad} \quad \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

STEP 3

Add the fractions with like denominators. Use the 1-whole strip to rename the sum in simplest form.

Think: How many fraction strips with the same denominator are equal to 1 whole?

$$\frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\quad}{\quad} + \frac{\quad}{\quad} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}, \text{ or } \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

Math Talk

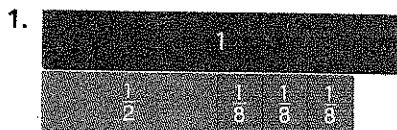
MATHEMATICAL PRACTICES

In what step did you find out that the answer is greater than 1? Explain.

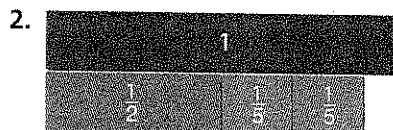
Share and Show



Use fraction strips to find the sum.



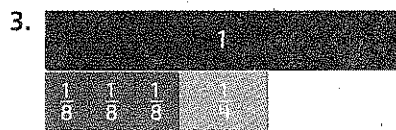
$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{\quad}{\quad} + \frac{\quad}{\quad} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$



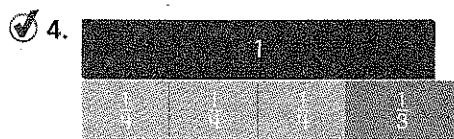
$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{\quad}{\quad} + \frac{\quad}{\quad} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

Name _____

Use fraction strips to find the sum.



$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{4} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$



$$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{3} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Use fraction strips to find the sum. Write your answer in simplest form.

5. $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{10} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

6. $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{12} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

7. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{10} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

8. $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{6} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

9. $\frac{5}{8} + \frac{1}{4} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

10. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

11. $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{6} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

12. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

13. $\frac{7}{8} + \frac{1}{4} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

14. **Write Math** Explain how using fraction strips with like denominators makes it possible to add fractions with unlike denominators.
